

# The Evening Times and Star

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## GEN. SIR ARTHUR CURRIE

OF all the Canadian soldiers who took part in the great war, which was so marked by the making of splendid names, the greatest name was made and the highest honors won by General Sir Arthur Currie, who is today visiting St. John. A business man whose military experience had been confined to the local militia in British Columbia, where he had risen from the ranks to the command of a regiment of artillery and later assisted in organizing a Highland regiment, he went overseas in command of an infantry brigade, won distinction in his first battle, was later made commander of an army division, and still later commander of the Canadian Army Corps, which he led from June 1917 to the end of the war. He so distinguished himself that honor after honor was conferred upon him by the King, and by the governments of France, Belgium and the United States. He stands forth today as Canada's greatest soldier. One writer, who was with the Canadian Army Corps before and after Gen. Currie assumed command, has this to say of him—

Tongue fighters at home, safely seated some thousands of miles from France, have accused Currie of carelessly sacrificing men. It is a lie. Had his bold methods prevailed in earlier parts of the war, the British casualties would have been much less. Numerous and other tactics than those of "limited objectives," so costly when the Boche had time to consolidate. Of one thing we may be sure, that few other generals paid more, or even as much attention to the well-being of the troops in their command as did the Canadian. In illustration of this, one little known incident will suffice. We had broken the Drocourt-Queant line, forced the Boche back behind his old wire and then halted. The tanks, held by other troops, had failed to advance as far, and we were left in a salient. Devastating fire was being poured upon us from the left and Currie went to the army commander to request the withdrawal of the Canadian Corps "until such time as the left flank comes up, or by staying where he was, he risked the displeasure of the high command for the sake of his men."

As this article was being finished a corporal, recently returned from France, came in to see me. "Do you know anything about General Currie?" I asked him. "No," he answered, "I only saw him once. We were on the line to Germany after the armistice. The ration had come up, the roads were bad and the fellows had a hard time to get along. An officer drove up in a car, picked up about half a dozen of us, all privates, and gave us a lift to the next town. He was General Currie."

Here is another intimate picture of the same writer, which gives a clearer knowledge of the character of the man St. John today delights to honor. It refers to the time of the grim affair at Passchendaele, which was ordered, by Currie, but by the high command—

I was on the Zonnebeke Road one morning when the general's car passed, coming from the line. The next day he passed me through Ypres, which at the time was being heavily shelled, and again he was coming from the line. I recognized his car before I recognized him, he had aged so. Later on I saw him near Proven, in the back country. His once florid face was ashen grey, his eyes had dark bags beneath them, he looked as though he carried about with him a burden too heavy to be borne. It was the awful responsibility of those hundred thousand lives which were in his keeping, a burden which was almost too great for him to bear. His men took the ridge, he had them carried back to Arras, and there they rested until last July. During all those months, as during all months before, Currie got to know the corps. He kept his finger on every detail until he got to know it through and through. His first consideration was all through. His first consideration was the welfare of his troops. Whatever agency sought to make the soldier's lot better and his life more happy, might be sure of the enthusiastic support of the general.

It is the commanding officer who knew his men and loved them, rather than the military tactician who could plan and direct campaigns, that we like to think of Sir Arthur Currie. He has been subjected to criticism based on ignorance, but that is the experience of every man in authority when people are shaken by the fierce emotions and the anguish of war. Canada today honors this distinguished son, whose name will forever be associated with the imperishable fame won by her soldiers in the most terrible of all wars. The citizens of St. John extend a very hearty welcome to Sir Arthur and Lady Currie, and congratulate him upon the great honor lately conferred upon him by McGill University. His message this evening will be heard with profound interest and appreciation.

## THE MURRAY PARTY.

MR. L. P. D. Tilley has issued a call for a convention to select a candidate in opposition to the present provincial government. This is not quite accurate. What Mr. Tilley is really asking is that a convention endorse Hon. James A. Murray as leader of the opposition. Also that the convention approve of Mr. Murray as leader, and afterwards hastened back to Mr. Murray as an humble, repentant and dutiful follower. If the con-

vention likes that sort of thing, that is the sort of thing the convention does like, and no extended comment is necessary.

The Standard, speaking for somebody whose identity is in doubt, assures the citizens that the opposition is not to Hon. Dr. Roberts, but to the government and its policy. The government forces will regard this as excellent fighting ground. The electors will be asked to make a choice between the leader and the party, still unrepentant, who were responsible for the crown lands, Valley Railway, patriotic potato and other scandals, and the leader and party who have given New Brunswick a new crown lands policy, a new highway policy, a public health act, a hydro-electric policy which will be of incalculable benefit to St. John and the whole province, and other measures of the highest value. The moment a supporter of the opposition rises to denounce the government he will be asked what he has to offer, and he can only reply: "Hon. J. A. Murray, Hon. B. F. Smith, Hon. J. B. M. Baxter, Mr. George B. Jones," etc. A return to the old methods which flooded the province will be the alternative offered. It is said that you cannot teach an old dog new tricks, and the like is generally regarded as true of a case-hardened politician.

Of course an effort might be made to throw the mantle of a respected and as yet untried candidate over the sins and omissions of the opposition party, but the public is not so easily deceived. The new candidate, if elected, would have to come to heel or go over to the government party. The Murray-Smith-Baxter party is not looking to this constituency for a leader, but for an echo. The present leaders will go on making the big noise.

The convention will no doubt give careful consideration to these facts, and also weigh the possible effect of a defeat now upon their chances in the general elections. To nominate a candidate in opposition to Hon. Dr. Roberts is entirely within their right, but the public will question the wisdom of a party factional opposition at this time. We may close with a brief extract from the Globe of Saturday evening—

"Now has come the testing time of the party itself. . . . So long as the Hon. J. A. Murray remains the acknowledged party leader no reliance can be placed in opposition talk of good government, Remembrance of the Valley Railway, the patriotic potato and the timber limit scandals makes support impossible by those who regard political honesty an essential of party government."

## THE FOREST FIRES.

The pioneer town of St. Quentin, on the International division of the Canadian Government Railways, has been wiped out by fire. This was a town built out of the wilderness, and it fell a prey to forest fires. The settlers who had gone there but a few years ago and by their industry and thrift made a thriving settlement are homeless. Such a calamity not only arouses the deepest sympathy but puts a terrible emphasis upon all the urgent pleas that have been made to guard the forests from the devouring flames. It is had enough when the trees which are so valuable an asset to the province are destroyed; but when homes which have been erected by hopeful hearts and tolling hands go up in smoke the loss is infinitely more regrettable. The last two weeks have been very costly weeks for the province of New Brunswick. The forest fire not only destroys standing timber but often eats into the very soil so that later growth is retarded or the area converted into a barren. No amount of insurance repays the loss, for that which is burned is lost as ashes, and the community suffers to the full extent of the value destroyed. The first thought on reading the news from St. Quentin is that of relief, and it must go quickly and in generous measure; but surely the lesson of this and lesser fires throughout the province, so many of them the result of pure ignorance or carelessness, will also sink into the public mind and lead to greater and more general vigilance in preventing such loss as has been sustained.

The enforcement of the prohibitory law in St. John needs some of the quality called "pep." In view of the coming plebiscite every effort is made to credit the law. Those charged with its enforcement should be no less active. They have a fine opportunity.

The practically universal adoption of daylight time in the city will cause less confusion and give everybody the benefit of the additional hour of daylight for gardening or other recreation.

It is intimated the indemnity of members of parliament may be increased. Their toil in reducing the high cost of living should of course receive some recompense and reward.

If rain does not soon come the crops will suffer severely.

## Too Much Agreement.

Edith—I think Jack is simply wonderful. Ella—Yes; the trouble is he thinks so, too.—Poughkeepsie Evening Star.

# Rippling Rhymes

Walt Mason

(Copyright by George Matthew Adams.)

## AT NIGHT

When I lay me down to rest, at ten minutes after nine, having all day done my best, I find myself in a state of mind. I have gained an honest plunk, earned it in the sweat that pours; so I lie upon my bunk, springing ground and lofty nores. I have done no evil trick, I have done no neighbor ill, I have feared no trusting hick, I have jumped no merchant's bill. If I've injured any gent, if I've caused the least distress, 'twas not done with fell intent—'twas pure awkwardness, I guess. So I seek my humble bed, and in dreams my spirit soars; and the neighbors hear I wot all my plain and fancy snores. Oh, the long and dragging nights that the crooked people know! Then it is that Conscience smites with a solar plexus blow. In the day the sinful guys may proceed with might and dash, in the night the ghosts arise and stand grinning round the bed. If you'd know a sleep profound, if you'd know what sweet dreams mean, if you'd have no ghosts around, you must have a mind serene. There is sorrow in the night, there are phantoms in the chilling woe, if you conscience isn't white as the well known driven snow.

## CANADA—EAST AND WEST

Dominion Happenings of Other Days

## THE SURRENDER OF JOHANNESBURG.

On May 30, 1900, the British forces fighting in South Africa—troops with which the Canadian soldiers were serving—entered the city of Johannesburg as victors. For two weeks they had been fighting the Boers steadily towards the Golden City of the Boers. The day before had ended with the Gordons and the Canadians storming the trenches in which the enemy had prepared to make a gallant stand. The Canadians had ended the battle when they were ordered to make a bayonet charge. The Boers regarded the rifles as a weapon and had no relish for a hand-to-hand tussle with the cold steel, so when it was seen coming they galloped away towards the town.

The next day all were astir early ready to enter the city whose mines and public buildings were intact in spite of the threats of the Boers to destroy everything. But it was not until the following day, May 31, that Lord Roberts made his triumphal entry into the place. The streets through the suburbs were largely deserted and the stores and houses barricaded for the most part but as the troops marched towards the public buildings the Union Jack floated and "Johannesburg was British."

## HE WOULD TEAR UP HISTORY TEXTBOOKS

So Dull They Ought to Be Scrapped, Says Dr. Johnson of Yale — Blames the Dry-as-Dusts.

(N. Y. Times.)

Textbooks in American history from which pupils in the elementary schools of the country secure their historical knowledge are so dull that they ought to be torn up and consigned to the flames, says the opinion of Dr. Allen Johnson, Professor of American History at Yale University. He says the reason for their dullness is not the history, but the way they are written. "I see both interest and romance, but the 'dry-as-dusts' who write the books."

In the early days, before man held even the most elementary method, history was written as a brilliant drama, a series of delightful and moving scenes, as the troops marched towards the public buildings the Union Jack floated and "Johannesburg was British."

Dr. Johnson writes that the teaching of history should not be left to the few classes of the school course, but as soon as a mother sees that her child clamors for a story she should narrate the interesting life stories of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Roosevelt and the romantic tales which have come out of the early settlement of the country by the colonists. Every growing child has his heroes and all would be interested in Daniel Boone, George Rogers Clark, Meriwether and Lewis and William Clark, the explorers and missionaries, he writes. For the girl there are the heroic women of Colonial days who followed their husbands into peril that a new nation might be born.

"As our young people grow up and enter high schools and colleges," he says, "they should not be tormented by the teaching of history in arbitrary periods, like the terms of our Presidents, to the exclusion of important underlying movements. Our method of

## FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH

- 270 E. Engine House, King square.
- 280 E. Engine House, Union street.
- 4 Cor. Sewell and Garden streets.
- 4 Broadway (Private).
- 5 Union St., near Cor. Mill and Dock Sts.
- 6 Prince Wm. street, opposite M. R. A. alley.
- 7 Cor. North Wharf and Nelson street.
- 8 Cor. Mill and Dock streets.
- 9 Water street, opposite Jardine's alley.
- 12 Waterford street, opposite Police station.
- 13 Cor. St. Patrick and Union streets.
- 14 Cor. Brunswick and Richmond streets.
- 15 Brunswick street, Wilson's foundry.
- 16 Cor. Brunswick and Manover streets.
- 17 Cor. Erie and Brunswick streets.
- 18 Cor. Union and Commercial streets.
- 19 Cor. Commercial and St. David streets.
- 21 M. R. A. street, private.
- 22 Cor. Commercial and King streets.
- 23 Cor. Princess and Charlotte streets.
- 25 No. 1 Engine House, Charlotte street.
- 26 City Hall, Cor. Prince William and Prince streets.
- 27 McLeod's Wharf, Water street.
- 28 Cor. Duke and Prince Wm. streets.
- 29 McLeod's Foundry, Water street, private.
- 30 Cor. Westworth and Prince streets.
- 31 Cor. Duke and Sydney streets.
- 32 Cor. Charlotte and Harding streets.
- 33 Cor. Commercial and Queen streets.
- 34 Cor. Queen and Commercial streets.
- 35 Cor. Sydney and St. James streets.
- 36 Commercial street, between Duke and Orange streets.
- 37 Cor. Crown and Union streets.
- 38 Cor. St. James and Prince Wm. streets.
- 39 Cor. Duke and Westworth streets.
- 40 Cor. Broad and Commercial streets.
- 41 Cor. British and Charlotte streets.
- 42 No. 2 Engine House, near Imperial St.
- 43 Byrd's street, opp. Military buildings.
- 44 East End Sheffield street, near Imperial St.
- 45 Armory, Cor. Sheffield and Commercial Sts.
- 46 City Hall, opposite Christie's factory.
- 47 Cor. Doreham and Helen streets.
- 48 Byrd's street.
- 49 Waterloo, opposite Golden Gate St. Pub.
- 50 Waterloo street, opposite entrance Gen. Pub.
- 51 Mill Row, between Westworth and Pitt.
- 52 Charlotte street, opp. Quinn street.
- 53 Cor. St. Patrick and Union streets.
- 54 Cor. Mill, Commercial and Pitt streets.
- 55 Pitt street, opp. Police station.
- 56 Cor. Clarence and Pitt streets.
- 57 Cor. King and Pitt streets.
- 58 King street, near Commercial.
- 59 Jones's corner, King square.
- 60 Cor. Orange and Pitt streets.

## STREET AND BOXES

- 121 Stephen's Mill, Indian street.
- 122 Cor. Main and Bridge streets.
- 123 Cor. Duke and Westworth streets.
- 124 Cor. Adelaide and Newmen streets.
- 125 No. 2 Engine House, Main street.
- 126 Douglas Avenue, Opp. F. M. O'Neill's.
- 127 Douglas Ave., Bentley street.
- 128 Cor. St. Patrick and Union streets.
- 129 Cor. King and Pitt streets.
- 130 Cor. Elgin and Victoria streets.
- 131 South Shore, opposite Hamilton's Mill.
- 132 Rolling Mills, Strait street.
- 133 Cor. Sheffield and Strait street.
- 134 Cor. Strait and Strait street.
- 135 Strait Shore, Warner's Mill.
- 136 Alexandra school house, Holly street.
- 137 Cor. Queen and Prince streets.
- 138 Maritime Mill Works, private.
- 139 Main street, police station.
- 140 Main street, opposite Harrison street.
- 141 Cor. Duke and Westworth streets.
- 142 Fleming's Foundry, Pond street.
- 143 Mill street, opposite Union Depot.
- 144 Jandies Row, near Harrison street.
- 145 Cor. Parvillie Row and Millidge street.
- 146 No. 2 Engine House, City road.
- 147 Mount Pleasant and Surpise Avenue.
- 148 Cor. Adelaide and Newmen streets.
- 149 Schofield's Tavern, Wright street.
- 150 Rockland road, near Cranston Avenue.
- 151 Rockland road, near Villages street.
- 152 Cor. Somerset and Barre streets.
- 153 Cor. City Road and Gilbert's Lane.
- 154 Main Bridge, near Frederick street.
- 155 A. C. G. R. Round house.

## FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH

- 4 No. 5 Shed.
- 5 Immigration Building.
- 6 No. 1 Shed.
- 7 No. 2 Shed.
- 8 Market Place, Rodney St.
- 9 Albert and Minette streets.
- 10 Ludlow and Gormann streets.
- 11 Lancaster and Duke streets.
- 12 Ludlow and Gormann streets.
- 13 Masonic Hall, Charlotte street.
- 14 Tower and Duke streets.
- 15 St. Patrick's Hall, St. John street and City Lane road.
- 112 No. 2 Engine House, King street.
- 113 Cor. Ludlow and Water streets.
- 114 Cor. King and Market Place.
- 115 Middle street, Old Fort.
- 116 Gloucester and Union Sts.
- 117 Sand Point Wharf or Victoria St.
- 118 Queen St., Opp. No. 7 Engine House.
- 119 Lancaster and St. James St.
- 120 St. John and Water Sts.
- 121 Winslow and Watson Sts.
- 122 C. P. R. Elevator.
- 123 Prince St., near Dr. Kennedy's Cor.
- 124 Chemical No. 1—Telephone Main 30.
- 125 Chemical No. 2 (North End), Telephone Main 25.

## QUEER FISH IS THE PUFFER.

One of the most curious of fishes is the puffer, so called because of its strange power to inflate its stomach like a balloon. The puffer for some time has been on exhibition at the Aquarium. In writing of the puffer fish in the Zoological Society Bulletin E. W. Gudger of the Museum of National History says: "The puffers are fishes inhabiting tropical and warm temperate seas, and sometimes drifting beyond these limits in warm currents. The Gulf Stream, for instance, carries them as far north as Woods Hole, Mass., while along the North Carolina coast they are very abundant. The writer not infrequently takes a dozen at one haul off the seine in the harbor of Beaufort. "The puffers are short-bodied fishes, devoid of scales, or rather having these transformed into spines strong or weak, and are especially notable for having the skin over the belly loose and very dis-

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